

Your M16 rifle needs gas to push its bolt back to the lock position after a round is fired. If it doesn't get enough gas, either rounds won't chamber or the rifle will suffer short recoil and your rifle stops firing.

Bad gapping of the bolt's gas rings is often the cause of a gas shortage. If the ring's gaps are lined up, too much gas escapes. The gaps must be staggered. If those on your bolt aren't, stagger them.

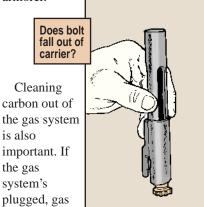
Stagger bolt ring gaps

A good test of the condition of the gas rings is to stick the bolt in the bolt carrier. Turn the bolt carrier upside down. If the bolt falls out, the gas rings

PS 566 50 JAN 00

IT THE CAS

probably need to be replaced. Tell your armorer.



Clean the outside of the receiver end of the gas tube with a bore brush and CLP (or RBC). But do it carefully. If you bend the tube, it won't mate with the carrier key. Then gas can't push the bolt back.

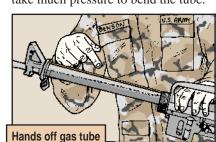
When the handwards are off keep.

Carrier key

loose or

dented?

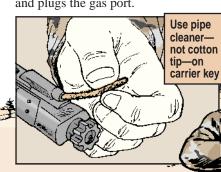
When the handguards are off, keep your hands off the gas tube. It doesn't take much pressure to bend the tube.



it's supposed to. Clean the carrier key thoroughly with an old bore brush, CLP (or RBC), and a pipe cleaner. To get out every bit of carbon, work the bore brush all the way back in the key.

can't go where

But never use a cotton tip instead of a pipe cleaner. The cotton comes off, mixes with lube and carbon, hardens, and plugs the gas port.



If the carrier key is dented, loose, or worn, it probably needs replacing. Tell your armorer.

